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of the biographer of Marlborough, and from so able and straightforward a soldier as the man who marched from Kabul to Kandahar. They are a welcome addition to any library.

THEODORE AYRAULT DODGE.

*Histoire de mon Temps; Mémoires du Chancelier Pasquier*, publiés par M. le duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier. Deuxième partie; Restauration, III. 1824-1830. Tome sixième. (Paris: E. Plon, Nourrit et Cie. 1895. Pp. 485.)

THE sixth and last volume of Pasquier's *Mémoires* is, strictly speaking, a history of the decline and fall of the restored elder branch of the Bourbon dynasty. Those familiar with the earlier volumes will not anticipate, in the closing one, any of the personal interest which attaches to the traditional French memoirs. There is neither wit nor wickedness. It reads like a lawyer's brief, and even the sedate reminiscences of Miot de Melito have not a little *verve* when contrasted with its systematic and unswerving progress. The chancellor confines himself closely to a narrative of the policy of Charles' ministers and their relations with the legislative chamber. There are no wandering personal recollections. When the author introduces himself, it is as a government official. The reader is, however, more than compensated for the palpable want of animation by the writer's admirable impartiality and coolness of judgment. There is nothing vindictive, for example, in his treatment of Charles X., in spite of the king's dislike for him. On the contrary, M. Pasquier, who had at least one opportunity of judging of the king's conduct in council, frankly owns that he was surprised at his intelligent participation in the discussion. Charles appears, moreover, to have listened to M. Pasquier's denunciation of the interference of the administration in elections, not only with equanimity, but even with approval. The writer's only object is to explain the king's policy and motives, and the attitude of the deputies and journalists toward the changing administration. There is a complete absence of the customary pen-pictures. The characters of the public men are exhibited only in their actions.

M. Pasquier had exceptional advantages for observing and ascertaining the true course of events. He had three times occupied a ministerial position under Louis XVIII., and was more than once included in the proposed ministerial combinations under Charles X. Although he wisely refused these invitations, he was naturally deeply interested in the inner history of the successive cabinets and gives it an important place in the volume before us. Still the reader will look in vain for any sensational discoveries which might revolutionize the current views of Charles' reign. While there are corrections and elucidations in detail, the story of blindness and incompetence remains much the same as it appeared before M. Pasquier's volume came to hand.

Pasquier substantiates the traditional belief that the reign of Charles X.

commenced, to all intents and purposes, at least two years before his brother's death. It seemed expedient to Villèle, the last minister of Louis and the first of his successor, to carry out such unpopular measures as promised to be advantageous, before the dauphin became king. The censorship of the press, for example, was introduced during the last failing days of Louis, only that its abrogation, by the same minister, might form an auspicious introduction to the new reign.

Charles was, as might be anticipated, much more obstinate in questions where his favorites were involved than in those relating to proposed legislation, which he not infrequently failed to grasp. He dreaded to part with a single one of the agents who had, since his return to France, formed what he called his party. This meant the maintenance of a secret council which rendered the position of the king's official advisers equivocal in the extreme. Two journeys which the king took in the northern and eastern provinces convinced him that, with such loyal troops as he had reviewed, and with the devoted people who greeted him, he would have no difficulty, when the time came, in shaking off the yoke of the constitutional party. The ministry of Martignac, suspecting the king's misapprehensions and aware of his essential want of confidence in the members of his cabinet, drew up, late in the year 1828 or early in 1829, a remarkable *mémoire* in which the hazardous nature of Charles' schemes, and the ruin which threatened him and his house, were portrayed with startling precision. After emphasizing the impossibility of obtaining a majority in the present chamber, or after a dissolution in the succeeding ones, "*Venait alors l'hypothèse d'une suspension momentanée de la Charte, qu'on rétablirait après avoir décidé par le pouvoir royal seul certains points qui ne peuvent être sagement décidé que par lui. Si, par malheur, de pareils conseils étaient écoutés, les ministres, accomplissant un rigoureux devoir, ne construiraient pas de déclarer au Roi qu'ils amèneraient non seulement sa ruine immédiate, mais celle de toute sa famille.*" Pasquier well observes, "*Je n'ai jamais vu de prédiction plus formelle, comme il n'y en a jamais eu de plus rigoureusement accomplie!*" Whether this well-meant warning first supplied the perverted programme which the king later carried out to the letter, M. Pasquier does not inform us.

The famous "221" who voted for the address in 1830, and who played such a conspicuous rôle in the succeeding election, would, Pasquier tells us, have been reinforced by some 80 members of the right centre, had it not been that these, offended by their exclusion from a committee, refused to concur with the majority with which they were in substantial accord, so far as the king's policy was concerned. This left the minority 120 strong, while, had there been but 40 on his side, the king might well have despaired of gaining a majority through a dissolution, and in this way the crisis might have been postponed, if not altogether obviated.

The incredible negligence of the king and Polignac, and the apathy they exhibited during the July days of 1830, are, in a measure, explained by their reliance upon superhuman aid. The pious Count of Broglie, head

of a military school, upon offering, with some insistence, his support during the disorders in Paris, was put off by the king with the following startling exhibition of the royal confidence in divine favor: "*Allons, mon cher comte, je vois bien qu'il faut tout vous dire. Eh bien, Polignac a encore eu des apparitions cette nuit; on a lui promis assistance, ordonné de persévérer, en lui promettant une pleine victoire.*"

One cannot read this account of the blindness and incapacity of the youngest of the royal brothers, without recurring constantly to the sorry figure of the elder brother when facing a graver crisis forty years before. There is the same pseudo-religious element, the same reliance upon secret councillors, the same almost ludicrous absence of common sense. And yet, there is a significant change in the attitude of the nation's representatives. Charles X., who was sheltered by ministerial responsibility, departed in peace, while the Prince of Polignac was condemned to perpetual imprisonment.

JAMES HARVEY ROBINSON.

*Un Ministre—Victor Duruy.* Par ERNEST LAVISSE. (Paris: Armand Colin et Cie. 1895.)

M. LAVISSE, to whom we are indebted for this sketch of the life of one of the most eminent historical writers of France, and of one of her most enlightened ministers of Public Instruction, had been one of his pupils at the Normal School, his secretary during the entire period of M. Duruy's ministry and, upon the minister's retirement from the cabinet of Napoleon, he continued to hold equally confidential relations with him until the close of his life in 1894. His prolonged social and personal relations with M. Duruy qualify him to speak of his hero with considerable authority, subject always to the limitations imposed by the obligations and the obscurations of friendship.

Victor Duruy was descended from a Dutch family which was induced to seek employment in the famous Gobelins manufactory in Paris during the ministry of Colbert. For seven generations his family had uninterruptedly contributed, in its way, to the world-wide fame of that institution. In one of its cottages, which had been occupied by the Duruys for more than a century, young Duruy was born September 10, 1811. His father was one of the heads or chefs of one of the departments of that famous industry. Victor was sent early to school in the Rue Pot-de-fer, but at the same time took lessons in drawing at the manufactory by way of hastening his preparation for embracing the family calling, which it was taken for granted he was to follow.

Thus far the history of young Victor differed as little from that of most boys as one hen's egg differs from another. There was no bow of promise in his cloud. The most any one could have predicted for him would have been, late in life, a succession to the post held by his father. But how he was destined to decorate the history of his country rather than the tapestry of the Gobelins he thus proudly recalled, the day he became a